

The Medical Assistance Administration (MAA) pays for pharmaceuticals using the National Council for Prescription Drug Programs (NCPDP) billing unit standard. The standard for billing injectable products that are liquid filled vials/amps/syringes is to bill as the number of milliliters (mls) dispensed. For example:

- Rebif – 44087-0044-03 44mcg/0.5ml syringe. If five syringes are dispensed, bill MAA 5 syringes X 0.5mls = 2.5mls.
- Fragmin – 00013-2426-91 5,000u/0.2ml syringe. If six syringes are dispensed, bill MAA 6 syringes X 0.2mls = 1.2mls.

Numbered memo 01-16 dated June 1, 2001, mandates that metric decimal quantities be used in billing MAA for pharmaceuticals.

## **Excerpted from the NCPDP Billing Unit Standard.**

### ***Dosage Forms Billed as “Each”***

- Solid Oral Dosage Forms
- Tablets
- Capsules
- Powder-filled vials, ampoules, and syringes are billed as a unit of "each" regardless of size or content of vial, ampoule or syringe in metric units.
- Suppositories must be billed as the number of individual suppositories dispensed, *not the number of packages, which may contain more than one suppository.*
- Convenience Packets, Therapy Packs and packs of Oral Contraceptive must be billed as the number of individual tablets or capsules (eaches) dispensed, *not the number of boxes or packages.*
- Non-filled Hypodermic Syringes must be billed as the actual number of syringes and/or hypodermic needles dispensed (eaches). *Do not bill the number of boxes or plastipaks.*
- Kits are defined as products with at least two (2) different or discreet items (excluding diluents, applicators and activation devices) in the same package, intended for dispensing as a unit. Kits carry only a single National Drug Code (NDC). Kits are intended to be dispensed as a unit and should be billed as a unit of EACH kit dispensed.
- Blood Derivatives products have varying potencies from batch to batch. Therefore, antihemophilic products must be billed as an each using the number of UNITS dispensed (i.e. International units or micrograms).
- Prolastin must be billed as an each using the number of MILLIGRAMS dispensed (each).
- Transdermal Patches and Powder Packets must be billed as eaches, *not the number of boxes or packages*

- Unit-of-use packages with a quantity less than one should be billed as “one each”. This rule does not apply to injectable products (see above). Examples of unit-of-use products with a quantity less than one include ointments in packets and eye drops in dropperettes.
- Powder-filled Blisters must be billed as the number of blisters, not by weight.

### ***Dosage Forms Billed as “Milliliter” (ml)***

- Liquid Oral Dosage Forms, Syrups, Elixirs, etc. must be billed as the total number of milliliters (ml) dispensed.
- Injectables that are liquid-filled vials, ampoules, and syringes must be billed as the total number of milliliters (ml) dispensed.
- Liquid Ophthalmic and Otic Products must be billed as the number of milliliters (ml) contained in the package according to manufacturer labeling.
- Reconstitutable Ophthalmic and Otic Products must be billed as the total number of milliliters (ml) dispensed after reconstitution; i.e., once the powder has been reconstituted with diluent, according to manufacturer instructions.
- Reconstitutable Oral Products must be billed as the total number of milliliters (ml) dispensed after reconstitution, according to the manufacturers instructions.

### ***Dosage Forms Billed as “Gram” (gm)***

- Creams
- Ointments
- Ophthalmic ointments must be billed as the number of grams (gm) in the package according to the manufacturer's labeling.
- Bulk Powders must be billed as the number of grams (gm) dispensed.

### ***Dosage Forms Billed as Either “Milliliter” or “Gram”***

- Inhalers, inhaler refills and aerosols should be represented as the metric quantity contained in the packaging in grams (gm) or milliliters (ml) as specified by the manufacturer on the labeling.
- Topical Products - These products must be billed as the number of grams (gm) or milliliters (ml) in the container. *Do not bill the number of ounces dispensed or the number of packages dispensed.*

### ***Dosage Forms Billed as “Exception”***

#### **Miscellaneous Products**

Several products do not fit into any of the above categories. These products should use the billing unit type specified below.

1. Cordran Tape (one each)
2. TesTape (one each)
3. EpiPen (one each)
4. EpiPen Jr. (one each)
5. Imitrex Kit Refill (one each)
6. Ventolin Rotacaps with Rotahaler (100 each, 24 each)

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